

**Writing Workshop—Unit 1**  
**Autobiographical Narrative: Integrating Grammar Skills**

**Revising Your Word Choice**

Use **specific, precise adjectives** in your writing. Replace general or vague adjectives with specific and precise ones.

**Vague Adjective**

a red house

**General Adjective**

an unhappy person

**Precise Adjective**

a maroon house

**Specific Adjective**

a distraught person

**Identifying Vague Adjectives**

**A. DIRECTIONS:** For each item, underline any vague adjectives that do not create a precise picture of what is being described.

1. Our baseball team played a good game last night.
2. I hit a nice line drive in the first inning.
3. Our pitcher struck out many batters with his incredible arm.
4. Our good hitting, nice base-running, and excellent fielding helped win the game.

**Fixing Vague Adjectives**

**B. DIRECTIONS:** On the lines provided, rewrite the sentences by replacing vague adjectives with vivid, precise ones.

1. The little old house was surrounded by bigger, nicer ones.  
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2. Its dark windows and the long grass in the yard showed that no one lived there.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. An old FOR SALE sign in the yard completed the sad impression it made.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. As I walked by, a strange cry came from the unusual house.  
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